GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:351
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2001
AUGMENTATION OF INFORMATION MEDIA IN J K/N.E.
SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government have cleared plans to augment information media in Jammu and Kashmir and the North-Eastern States;

(b) if so, the details of the installations to be established, modified and augmented under the plans including their estimated cost and time frame, location-wise; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken to implement the same?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION No. 351 FOR 13/12/2001

(a), (b) & (c): A Special Plan for improvement of Doordarshan and AIRcoverage in J&K, at a total cost of Rs. 430.07 crores,is already under implementation. It is scheduled to be completed during 2002. The details ofAIR and Doordarshan projects presently under implementation in J&K, under this package, are given in Annexure. In addition, the Empowered Committee has approved 2 Digital Satellite News Gathering Units,Recording & Playback facilities for the Kashir Channel and renovation/re- activation of the Information Centre at Srinagar.

The Government has approved, in principle, the implementation of a specialpackage of schemes for improvement of Doordarshan and AIR services inthe North-East Region (including Sikkim). The package will beimplemented in the 10th Five Year Plan and advance action has already been initiated. The size and nature of the schemes will depend upon the approval by the Expenditure Finance Committee.